

## ***THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY***

**February 2011 – Week 1**

**Air Date: January 30 – February 5 (Sunday – Saturday)**



### **TITLE: MOVIES COME TO TEXAS**

FEBRUARY 1897 AND MOVIES COME TO TEXAS.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

FEBRUARY 1, 1897. DALLAS. LESS THAN A YEAR AFTER IT PREMIERES IN NEW YORK CITY, THOMAS EDISON'S VITASCOPE IS SWEEPING THE COUNTRY. THE MACHINE USES PROJECTED LIGHT TO SHOW MOVING PICTURES TO LARGE AUDIENCES.

TODAY, ON A PROMOTIONAL TOUR OF THE SOUTH THE VITASCOPE MAKES ITS FIRST TEXAS STOP AT THE DALLAS OPERA HOUSE. AMAZED CROWDS WATCH SIMPLE FILMS SHOWING WAVES ON THE BEACH, A BOXING MATCH, A KISS . . . AND EVEN A LYNCHING.

CROWDS LOVE IT.

THE FIRST FILM OF TEXAS WOULD COME THREE YEARS LATER WHEN A CAMERAMAN SHOT THE AFTERMATH OF THE GALVESTON STORM. DALLAS ITSELF DID NOT MAKE IT ONTO FILM UNTIL 1911.

MOVIES CAME TO TEXAS 114 YEARS AGO, THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

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TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

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